
Meditation
Christmas Eve: God of the Dark and the Light

::: ONE :::

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

*Do not be afraid. I bring you good news
that will cause great joy for all the people.
Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to you;
he is the Messiah, the Lord.*

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests.”*

Lk 2:10–14.

Christmas Eve...

Darkest night
and brightest light.

::: TWO :::

Shepherds out at night,
keeping watch over their flocks.

At night,
out at night.

The night—darkness.

Darkness—a time of dark thoughts, dark actions,
a time of fear and anxiety,
a time of ominous creatures,
a time of pain striking like at no other time.

Yes, darkness can be like that.
The night can be like that.

The night—darkness.

Darkness—a time of alert,
 of perceiving even the slightest sound,
a time of focused prayer,
a time of longing,
a time of rest.

::: THREE :::

Suddenly,
 angels out at night.
 With the glory of the Lord
 shining around them.

The light—
 blinding,
 terrifying,
 unbearable,
 unavoidable.

Yes, light can be like that.

The light—
 enlightening,
 brightening,
 warming,
 empowering.

::: FOUR :::

Christmas Eve...

Darkest night, brightest light.

Our God—God of the dark, God of the light.

Your darkness,
is it dark thoughts, dark actions,
full of fear and anxiety,
filled with ominous creatures,
with pain striking?

God is in the darkness.

Darkness has no power over him.

He has all power over darkness.

He will find you—in your darkness.

He is in the darkness.

There is no darkness where he can't be found.

Your light,

is it blinding,

terrifying,

unbearable,

unavoidable.

God is the God of light.

Light cannot outshine him.

He has all power over light.

He will see you—

in the shine, the glamour, the glare.

He is in the light.

There is no light which could outshine him.

∴ FIVE ∴

Today in the town of David a Savior

has been born to you;

he is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign to you:

*You will find a baby wrapped in cloths
and lying in a manger.”*

Lk 2:11–12 (NIV)

Out in the darkness,
announced bright light,
a hope is born.

Only a tiny start,
but the beginning of a new era.
A new life born, lying poorly in a manger,
but the first born to eternal life.

The Christ
who will live through the darkest darkness,
who will be not be blinded by the
seductive light of false glory.

There in the manger
lies the Christ,
your Emmanuel—your 'God is with you',
your Yeshua—your 'God saves', your Saviour.

∴ SIX ∴

*Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that
has happened, which the Lord has told us
about.”*

Let us go.

Go—and you will find him.

Go—find a tiny hope.

Go—and be faithful:

 this tiny hope will deliver you,

 this tiny hope will let you see:

 God is there—

 in your deepest darkness

 never outshined by any other light.

::: SEVEN :::

Go,

in him you will find

 love, hope, rest and peace—shalom

 through darkness and light.

Go,

and you will find

the God of the dark and the light,

the God caring for your live—

 through dark—into light of ever-lasting life.

::: Amen.